

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 FPC-01 H-01 INR-05

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /095 W

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R 180807Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1525

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4951

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, KU, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN DISCUSSIONS IN KUWAIT

1. ON NOVEMBER 17 CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT JAMES GEORGE (RESIDENT IN TEHRAN) PAID BRIEF COURTESY VISIT ON AMBASSADOR. GEORGE WAS ON ONE OF INFREQUENT VISITS TO KUWAIT TO BE PRESENT DURING TALKS BETWEEN GOK OFFICIALS AND THE VISITING MINISTER OF FINANCE OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO (JOHN WHITE). LATTER REPORTEDLY SEEKING LARGE LOANS FOR PROPOSED ONTARIO HYDRO AND OTHER PROVINCIAL PROJECTS. (WE PRESUME JAMES BAY PROJECT IN QUEBEC NOT INCLUDED IN DISCUSSIONS.)

2. AMBASSADOR GEORGE SAID: (A) GOK RESPONSE SO FAR CAUTIOUS RE ONTARIO'S REQUEST FOR MASSIVE LOANS, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF LARGE AMOUNTS (UNSPECIFIED) REQUESTED; (B) DURING WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION, KHALED ABU SA'UD, DIRECTOR OF INVESTMENTS IN THE MINISTRY FINANCE & OIL, TOLD CANADIANS ON MOST CONFIDENTIAL BASIS THAT GOK CONSIDERED "STERLING DEAD" (GEORGE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED WE NOT DISCLOSE ABOVE REMARK TO UK); AND, GOK MINISTER CONFIDENTIAL

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OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER ABDULLA YOUSEF AL-GHANIM TOLD VISITORS

HE INTENDED RESIGN SHORTLY AND WOULD BE REPLACED BY ANOTHER
MEMBER AL-GHANIM FAMILY.

3. WHEN QUERIED BY AMBASSADOR, GEORGE DENIED LOCAL PRESS REPORTS
THAT GOC MINISTER OF ENERGY & MINES DONALD MACDONALD PLANS EARLY
VISIT TO KUWAIT AND GULF AREA TO DISCUSS ATOMIC ENERGY (REACTOR
SALES) AND RELATED MATTERS. DESPITE DENIAL, WE INCLINED BELIEVE
THERE IS SOME SUBSTANCE TO RUMORS THAT GOC INTERESTED IN REACTOR
SALES TO GULF COUNTRIES.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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